

**DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT
PACIFIC HERRING COMMERCIAL FISHING REGULATIONS**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SUMMARY	S-1
S.1 Introduction	S-1
S.2 Proposed Project	S-2
S.3 Project Alternatives	S-3
S.4 Existing Environment.....	S-3
S.5 Environmental Impacts.....	S-3
S.5.1 Proposed Project	S-3
S.5.2 Alternatives	S-4
S.5.3 Cumulative	S-5
S.6 Areas of Controversy	S-6
S.7 Issues to be Resolved	S-6
 Chapter 1. INTRODUCTION	1-1
1.1 Background	1-1
1.2 The Functional Equivalent	1-2
1.3 Scoping Process	1-3
1.4 Report Availability	1-3
1.5 Authorities and Responsibilities	1-4
 Chapter 2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION	2-1
2.1 Project Objectives	2-1
2.2 Project Location	2-2
2.2.1 San Francisco Bay	2-4
2.2.1.1 Roe Herring Fishery	2-4
2.2.1.2 Herring Eggs-on-Kelp Fishery.....	2-5
2.2.1.3 Fresh Fish Market Fishery.....	2-5
2.2.2 Tomales Bay	2-6
2.2.2.1 Roe Herring Fishery	2-6
2.2.2.2 Fresh Fish Market Fishery	2-6
2.3 Project Characteristics	2-7
2.3.1 Roe Herring Fisheries	2-11
2.3.1.1 San Francisco Bay 2004-05 Quota	2-11
2.3.1.2 Tomales Bay 2004-05 Quota	2-12
2.3.1.3 Humboldt Bay and Crescent City 2004-05 Quotas.....	2-13
2.3.1.4 Season Dates.....	2-14
2.3.1.4.1 Weekend Fishing in Tomales Bay	2-15
2.3.1.5 Reduction in the Minimum Mesh Size to 2-in. for Gill Nets used in the San Francisco Bay Roe Herring Fishery.....	2-16
2.3.1.5.1 General Overview of Gill Nets and Department Use	

of Multi-Panel Research Gill Nets and Mesh Size Study in San Francisco Bay	2-19
2.3.1.5.2 Gill Net Mesh Range of Selectivity for Herring: Analysis of Other Studies	2-21
2.3.1.5.3 Age Selectivity of 2 ½-in. and 2-in. Mesh Gill Nets.....	2-24
2.3.1.5.4 Efficiency.....	2-27
2.3.1.5.5 Mortality of Herring Escaping Nets	2-28
2.3.1.5.6 Reduced Value of Landed Fish.....	2-29
2.3.1.5.7 Incidental catch.....	2-29
2.3.1.5.8 Sustainability of the herring population.....	2-30
2.3.1.6 Gill Net Length Measurement.....	2-34
2.3.1.7 Permit Changes2-34	
2.3.1.7.1 Transfer Fee Reduction.....	2-34
2.3.1.7.2 Other Measures to Facilitate Transfers.....	2-37
2.4 Project Alternatives.....	2-38
2.4.1 Alternative 1 (no project).....	2-38
2.4.2 Alternative 2 (existing regulations).....	2-39
2.4.3 Alternative 3 (individual vessel quota).....	2-39
Chapter 3. ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING	3-1
3.1 General	3-1
3.2 Spawning Population Estimation Methods.....	3-1
3.2.1 Spawn Deposition Surveys	3-2
3.2.2 San Francisco Bay Hydroacoustic Surveys	3-4
3.2.3 Peer Review of Age Structured Model and Survey Methods for San Francisco Bay.....	3-5
3.3 Status of the San Francisco Bay Spawning Population	3-6
3.3.1 San Francisco Bay Herring Young of the Year (YOY)	3-14
3.4 Status of the Tomales Bay Spawning Population	3-15
3.5 Status of the Humboldt Bay and Crescent City Spawning Populations	3-23
3.6 Areas of Controversy.....	3-24
3.6.1 Comparison of the Tomales and San Francisco Bays Populations	3-31
3.6.2 Potential Impacts of Herring Fishery Regulation Changes to Salmonids	3-31
Chapter 4. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS AND CUMULATIVE EFFECTS .	4-1
Chapter 5. ANALYSIS OF ALTERNATIVES	5-1
5.1 Alternative 1 (no project)	5-1
5.2 Alternative 2 (existing regulations)	5-2
5.3 Alternative 3 (individual vessel quota)	5-2
5.4 Proposed Project	5-3

Chapter 6. CONSULTATION 6-1

Literature Cited..... L-1